

Docket No. ROPAK-P2712 ..... Serial No. 09/834,528

### REMARKS

A telephone interview between Examiner Ngo, and Applicant's representatives Mark Holland and Mark Pellegrini was conducted on April 19, 2005. Among other things, the Von Holdt '498, Crisci '107, and Robbins '213 patents were discussed.

Pursuant to that interview, Applicant has amended independent claims 2, 4, 18, 19, and 20 as attached herewith, and understands that the Examiner agrees that those amendments place those claims in form for allowance. Applicant notes that the amendments include a "substantially continuous" shoulder rather than the Examiner's suggested "continuous" shoulder, because of Applicant's one or more few "breaks" in the shoulder of the lid's outer skirt (see, for example, Applicant's Fig. 1 which shows an opening or break in the shoulder by which a user grips the end of a tearstrip).. The last line of Claim 4 was further amended to change the word "as" to "at" in order to correct a typographical error.

Applicant has further amended independent Claims 14 and 16 to include a container, as well as limitations similar to those set forth above. Based on the aforementioned Examiner's interview, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims (and all claims depending therefrom) should also be allowable.

Applicant also has added further dependent claims numbered 24-26 which depend from the allowable claims set forth above. Because these claims depend from the already allowable claims, they themselves are allowable. Support for these added limitations can be found at least in the following portions of the drawings and specification:

Support for the various tearstrip limitations as contained in new Claims 24-26 can be found at least in the original specification on page 5, line 3; and Figure 1, reference number 33.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application including Claims 2-5 and 14-26 are now in condition for allowance, notice whereof is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

If the Examiner had any questions regarding the foregoing, or if the Examiner would like to discuss any remaining or new issues regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative of Applicant at (949) 718-6750.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 21, 2005

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